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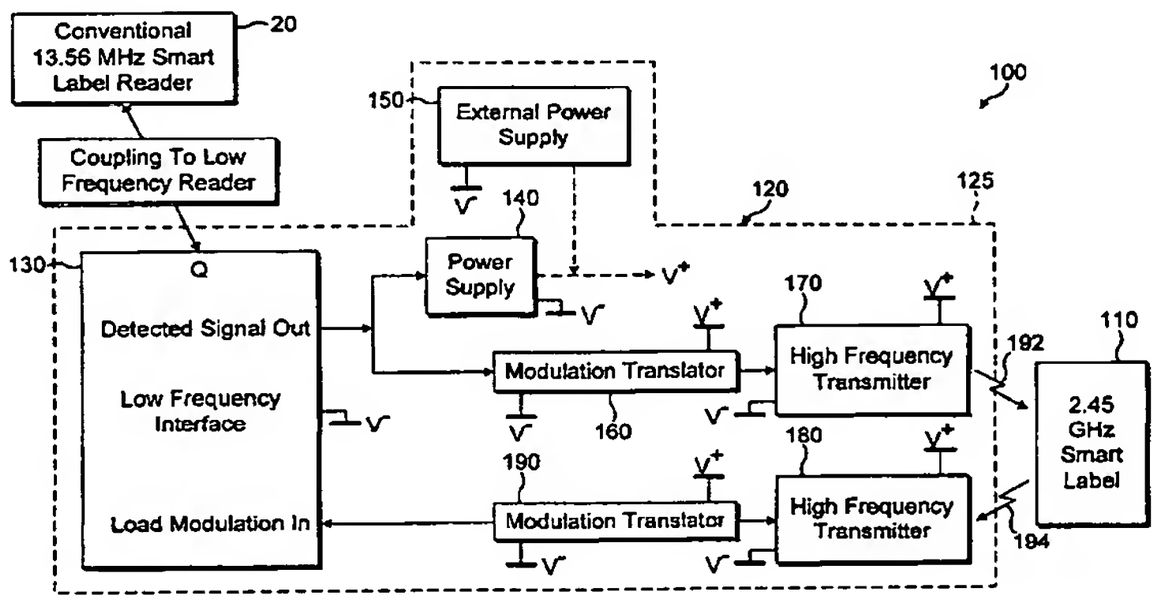
(54) Title: READER INTERFACING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a reader interfacing device (120) for providing a communication path between: (a) a tag or smart label reader (20) configured to emit and receive interrogating radiation suitable for interrogating tags or smart labels (40) at a first radiation frequency; and (b)a remote tag or smart label (110) configured to be interrogated using radiation of a second frequency, the first frequency (13.56 MHz) and the second frequency (2.45 GHz) being mutually different by at least an order of magnitude, and the reader (20) being operable to communicate through the device (120) to the remote tag or smart label (110). The device (120) includes a power supply (140) for converting interrogating radiation received at the device from the reader to generate power supply potentials for powering the device (120). Moreover, the device (120) is mutually magnetically coupled to the reader (20) for receiving the interrogating radiation therefrom and for providing a modulated load thereto for communicating back to the reader (20). In order to achieve such magnetic coupling, the device (120) includes a loop antenna (310) for magnetically coupling to a corresponding loop antenna (60) of the reader. The device (120) provides, for example, the advantage that the reader (20) can conform to a standard ISO 15693 and the device (120) enables remote tags and smart labels not conforming to the standard to communicate with the reader (20).

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